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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Adrianus Josephus VAN DEN NIEUWELAAR,  
Cornelis Dirk VAN HARSKAMP, and  
Bastiaan Wilhelmina Johannes Elizeus Josephus DRABBELS

Serial No.: 09/915,027 Art Unit: 3643

Filed: July 25, 2001 Examiner: Parsley, David J.

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR MAKING AN INCISION IN THE  
SKIN OF A SLAUGHTERED ANIMAL, AND FOR  
PERFORMING A SUBCUTANEOUS OPERATION

Attorney Docket No. V0028/260870

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
AND PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

DEC 30 2003

**GROUP 3600**

Sir:


Please enter the following amendments to the claims and consider the following remarks in response to the Office Action mailed June 23, 2003 (the "Action").

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.

**Petition for Three-Month Time Extension** begins on page 14 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 17, 2003.

  
Geoffrey K. Gavin - Registration No. 47,591